

25 March 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT: Organizational Proposal for the Production
of Intelligence on International Communism
REFERENCE: Draft Memorandum, dated 9 November 1954,
"Production of Intelligence on International
Communism"

1. There appears to be general agreement that the output of finished intelligence on communism needs to be substantially increased. This need has been recognized and voiced from time to time for several years and restated recently in the USIA survey, an OCB paper concerning propaganda against communism, and other internally circulated CIA papers. In order that steps might be taken to provide for the desired increased output, the SA/DCI/PC was directed to examine the appropriate location of primary responsibility for the production of intelligence on international communism and to consult with the Special Assistant/Intelligence, Department of State, on this subject. After preliminary consideration of the referenced memorandum, the SA/DCI/PC was directed to develop specific recommendations concerning any desirable expansion of functions and new organisational arrangements within the CIA that might be required to meet the recognized need. This memorandum sets forth a recommended course of action in response to both of these requests.

2. The more important conclusions set forth in the referenced memorandum, and apparently generally accepted within the CIA, were that there are three distinguishable intelligence production activities all of which need to be initiated or expanded. They are:

a. The production of finished intelligence of a level of generality useful to policymakers, organised for the most part in the form of

studies of institutions, situations, and developments in particular countries, including most contributions to NIE's and the NS and much current intelligence;

b. The provision of operational intelligence in support of PI and CI activities and of specific and detailed information on communist organisations, communication nets and personalities, including much unclassified specific detail useable for propaganda and other PI purposes at home and abroad;

c. Continuing basic and operational research on, and speculative study of, communism and the means of countering communism.

CONCLUSIONS:

3. That the production of intelligence outlined in paragraph 2a should continue to be the responsibility of the Department of State inasmuch as there is no practical way to divide the subject matter of political and social intelligence as a whole, which is the responsibility of state, into two distinguishable subjects one of which is "Communist" and the other "everything else."

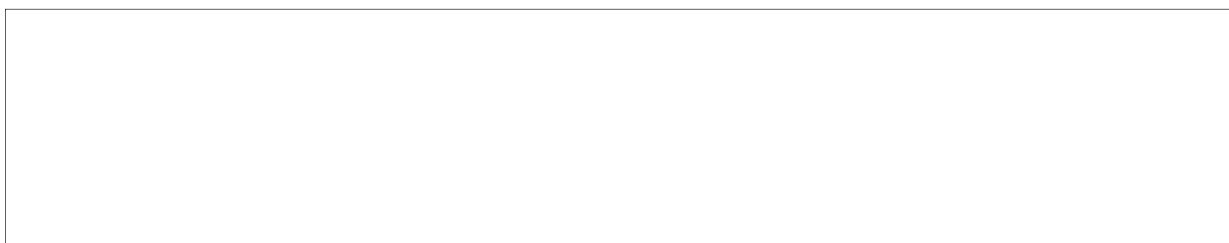
4. That the production of intelligence outlined in paragraph 2b above should be assigned to DDP.

5. That the activity outlined in paragraph 2c above (which is in part intelligence, in part estimation, and in part speculation on policy) should be carried on initially by two or three senior officers pending the possible evolution of a Senior Research and Planning Staff along the more formal lines outlined in the reference paper. These officers should be housed with the DDP/CI but could be either attached administratively to that staff or detailed to it by the DSI.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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6. To implement the foregoing conclusions it is recommended:

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d. That the senior research and planning officers proposed in (c) preceding be selected on the basis of individual merit from any part of the Agency or from outside and that they either be assigned administratively to the DDP/GI, or be detailed to this staff by the DDCI, but that they have free access to senior officers in all parts of the Agency (following the parallel of members of the Board of National Estimates). The assignment of officers to this function will in itself have the effect of encouraging promising individuals with a background in this field to devote themselves over a long period of time to study and speculation on international communism.

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RICHARD M. BISSELL, Jr.
Special Assistant to the Director
for Planning and Coordination

PCS/DCI:JQR:aml (25 March 1955)

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CONCURRENCE:

Deputy Director (Intelligence)

Deputy Director (Plans)

Deputy Director (Support)

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

APPROVAL:

Director of Central Intelligence